SUPERIOR Carnage®

NO. 1

KEVIN SHINICK • STEPHEN SEGOVIA • JAY RAMOS

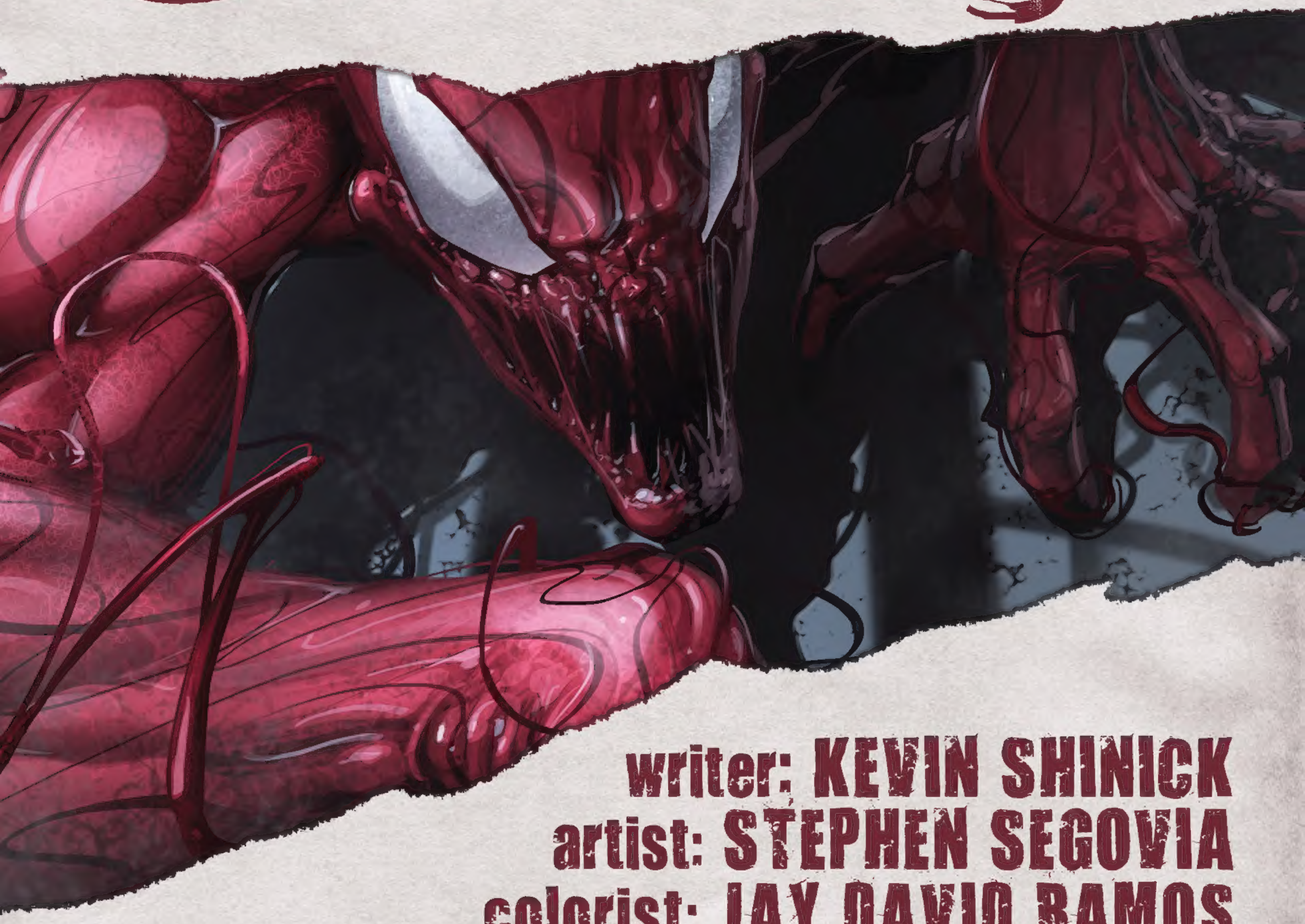
MARVEL

SUPERIOR SPIDER-MONTH

001

CLETUS KASADY was a murderer and a maniac. Now he's a murderer and a maniac bonded to a deadly alien symbiote. They call him

Carnage



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Undisclosed Containment Facility.

MY NAME IS TED CONNELLY.

YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF ME, BECAUSE I'M NOT A CRIMINAL WHO'S COMMITTED SOME ATROCIOUS CRIME LIKE TRYING TO DESTROY THE WORLD.

FOR ME IT WAS SIMPLY INSIDER TRADING.

BUT I'M GUESSING WHAT YOU *HAVE* HEARD OF IS THE GOVERNOR'S NEW PLAN FOR DEALING WITH OVERCROWDED PRISONS.

NAMELY, TRANSFERRING SOME OF US LESSER CONVICTS TO THE MAXIMUM-SECURITY SUPER-VILLAIN PRISONS.

BECAUSE, WELL, LET'S FACE IT...

...THESE CELLS HAVE A HABIT OF NEVER STAYING OCCUPIED.

BOOM!

PRISON BREAK!

MOVE! MOVE! MOVE! THIS IS A RED ALERT.

EVERYONE BACK TO THEIR CELLS.

WE ARE ON LOCKDOWN.

ON THE GROUND! HANDS ON YOUR HEAD! EVERYONE, HANDS ON YOUR HEAD.

FOR THE GOVERNOR, IT MEANS HAVING SIXTY DAYS TO TRY HIS PLAN OUT BEFORE THE STATE GETS TO VOTE ON IT.

FOR ME IT MEANS MY HEART RATE NEVER DROPS BELOW THAT OF A HUMMINGBIRD.

AND MY SHORTS REMAIN AT A CONSTANT "LEVEL BROWN" ALERT.

'CAUSE THE ONLY ADVICE MY LAWYER GAVE ME AS I HEADED TO PRISON WAS, "HIT THE BIGGEST GUY YOU CAN FIND."

AND WE KNOW THAT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN.

FALSE ALARM. LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S ACCOUNTED FOR. B-TEAM IS SECURING THE PERIMETER.

THEY'RE SAYING IT MIGHT'VE BEEN A GAS LEAK.

BUT, MAN, THAT WAS RECORD TIME, HUH?

DON'T BE SO PLEASED WITH YOURSELF, WELLS. I'VE HEARD THAT CARNAGE THING CAN TAKE OUT A TOWN IN HALF THAT TIME.

Then.

ABOUT A MONTH AGO, THEY BROUGHT IN THE SERIAL KILLER, *CLETUS KASADY*. OTHERWISE KNOWN AS *CARNAGE*.

I OVERHEARD THEM SAYING THAT THE SCARLET SPIDER HAD DONE A NUMBER ON HIM.

MR. KASADY SURVIVED HIS WOUNDS, AGENT VENOM. BUT HE'S COMPLETELY CATATONIC. HE'S EFFECTIVELY BEEN LOBOTOMIZED.

BUT AS THEY WHEELED HIM BY, THERE WAS STILL SOMETHING IN THE EYES. SOMETHING *EVIL* STARING BACK AT ME FROM THE BLACKNESS.

SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE OTHER SHOE TO DROP.

ALONG WITH THAT LUMP IN MY THROAT.

Now.

WACK!

AWAY FROM THE WINDOW, SHORTSTAIN.

CELL GUARD. NOT MY BIGGEST FAN.

I HAVE A BET WITH THE OTHER GUARDS AS TO HOW MANY BOXERS YOU'LL NEED BLEACHED BY THE END OF THE WEEK. WITH *CARNAGE* RIGHT NEXT DOOR I HAD YOU PEGGED FOR A DIRTY DOZEN.

BUT IT SEEMS YOU NEED SOME INCENTIVE.

YOU REALIZE THE ONLY THING KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE FROM THAT MONSTER IS A SIMPLE CODE IN MY HEAD, RIGHT?

BEEP

WHOOPS. HAND SLIPPED. HOPE IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN. I HEARD CARNAGE'S LAST NEIGHBOR IS STILL SOMEWHERE BETWEEN HIS STOMACH AND HIS COLON.

ALL RIGHT! STOP IT! JUST... JUST STOP. PLEASE.

HA! I THOUGHT SO. KNEW YOU'D CRAP UNDER PRESSU--

HMFF.

YES. I UNDERSTAND.

BEEP

THAT'S NOT FUNNY, MAN.

I WILL RELEASE THEM.

BEEP

ALL RIGHT, KNOCK IT OFF!

I WILL OBEY.

BEEP

C'MON. I SAID ENOUGH!

I WILL SACRIFICE...

MOTHER OF GOD, STOP!

BEEP

SPLOOSH!

AHHH!

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I GOT HERE I FEEL EVERYONE IS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING.

PRISON BREAK!

WE ARE AT CODE RED!

SCHLIK!

AAAHH!

AAAHH!

SCARED AND RUNNING FOR THEIR LIVES.

AAAHH!

AND DESPITE THE ROSTER OF DEADLY SUPER VILLAINS...

...IT BECOMES CLEAR WHO'S REALLY AT THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN.

MY LEGS BECOME USELESS. IT'S EVERYTHING I FEARED.

I DON'T KNOW HOW IT KILLS SO MANY SO QUICKLY.

I DON'T KNOW HOW IT SEEPS THROUGH THE VENTS AND AIR DUCTS.

BUT WHAT I DO KNOW IS THIS...

WHEN YOU'RE ASKED TO VOTE ON THE GOVERNOR'S *"OVERCROWDED CELL"* PROPOSITION NEXT MONTH...

HSSSSSSSSS!

+GASP+

...VOTE NO.

OHHHH. SO MUCH BLOOD. IT'S LIKE WATCHING *GAME OF THRONES*.

JUST AS WELL. THIS GUY'S THOUGHTS WERE SO LOUD, THEY PRACTICALLY INTERFERED WITH ME CONTROLLING THAT GUARD'S MIND.

AND THE WIZARD IS NO STRANGER TO MIND CONTROL.

FEAST, MY DEAR CARNAGE. ONCE YOU HAVE PAVED THE WAY FOR OUR EXIT I WILL MAKE YOU MY SLAVE.

MY AGENT OF EVIL.

MY SOLDIER.

AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

+SIGH.+

S'LIKE PULLING TEETH.

YES.

PLEASE.

TELL US WHY.

THANK YOU.

"BECAUSE THE MILITARY HAS BEEN NAUGHTY. MY SOURCES TELL ME THEY'VE BEEN PLAYING DOCTOR WITH A CERTAIN VENOM SYMBIOTE.

"TAKING THE ALIEN SPECIMEN AND CONVERTING IT TO THEIR LIKING. INTO A SUPER-SOLDIER OF SORTS.

"BUT THAT'S NOT THE *REAL* CRIME. THE REAL CRIME TO ME IS THAT... THEY *FAILED!*

"BECAUSE YOU DON'T HARNESS EVIL AND MAKE IT GOOD.

"YOU HARNESS EVIL AND MAKE IT WICKED!"

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, THOSE PEOPLE ARE BEING SLAUGHTERED OUT THERE! SHUT UP AND LET US HELP THEM!

OH, SO NOW THEY'RE PEOPLE, ARE THEY?

WHEN I BLEW A HOLE IN YOUR PRECIOUS PRISON, YOU WERE READY TO SHOOT WHOEVER TRIED TO ESCAPE, BUT ADD A BIT OF MURDER AND SUDDENLY THEY'RE IN NEED OF HELP?

WELL, LET ME SHOW YOU SOMEONE IN NEED OF HELP.

YOU HAVEN'T GOT THE GUTS!

DAD, SHUT UP!

THIS BOY IS YOUR SON?

YOU KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF HIM.

ADMIRABLE. MY SON IS ALSO BECOMING A MAN, AND I WISH TO GAIN HIS RESPECT BY HAVING HIM WORK BY MY SIDE.

NOT BY FORCING HIM THIS TIME. BUT BY RECLAIMING MY RIGHTFUL POSITION AS LEADER OF THE MOST FEARED GROUP OF VILLAINS.

AND WITH CARNAGE AS MY CORNERSTONE, MY BOY WILL YEARN TO BECOME A MEMBER OF... THE FR—

THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR! RIGHT. BIG SURPRISE.

WHAT IS THIS, YOUR SIXTEENTH VERSION? WHY DON'T YOU JUST CALL IT THE *PUSSYCAT DOLLS* AND GET IT OVER WITH?

WIZARD, PLEASE! MY DAD DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S SAYING. HAVE COMPASSION.

I WILL HAVE COMPASSION.

GLKKK!

WHEN IT COMES TO MY OWN FAMILY.

BUT I WILL NOT LET HIM SUFFER ALONE.

BLAM!

ZAP!

AND NOW TO TAME THE BEAST.

CLETUS KASADY!

I AM *THE WIZARD.* AND WHILE YOUR STRENGTH MAY BE MASSIVE...

...YOUR MIND IS NOW MINE!

RAAAAAPPPP!

A LITTLE CLOSER.

CLOSER.

GOOD GOD, YOUR BRAIN IS GONE!

RAAAAAPPPP!

SMASH

HEAVEN HELP ME!

UGH!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR.

YOU WERE MY SECRET WEAPON.

YOU WERE MY MASTER PLAN...

UHN...

CARNAGE!

YOU JUST WEREN'T MY *FIRST* RECRUIT.

To Be Continued... With KLAW, Master of Sound!

mail bonding

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If you told 8-year-old Sana that she would grow up to be the editor of a book about a crazed villainous symbiote, she would probably say something like, "Gross!" Luckily for you guys though, I have three older brothers who–by virtue of being gross and annoying themselves–eventually desensitized me to disgusting things. They also introduced me to my first horror movie – *A Nightmare on Elm Street.* I probably watched much of that movie through the slits between my fingers, horrified and glued to the television at the same time. I couldn't sleep on a bed for days, lest Freddy's hands grabbed me from within the mattress. But then a few weeks later, I watched *Chucky*.

Despite my inability to sleep alone or keep dolls in my room thereafter, it was still all worth it--because there's a good chance I wouldn't be a comic book editor if my brothers hadn't thrown me headfirst into the world of sci-fi, horror and fantasy. So here I am some twenty-odd (I won't tell you my age!) years later editing a comic book that takes the horror genre to another level. With Kevin Shinick and Stephen Segovia at the helm, we get the perfect mix of humor, terror and heart-pounding action. That combined with Jay Ramos' moody colors and Joe Caramagna's refined lettering—and you've got a book that will keep YOU horrified and glued to the page. And don't worry, I won't judge if you want to close your eyes at the scary parts.

Thanks for being a part of Superior Spider-Month, don't forget to check out the other books on sale. They're sure to be far more *superior* than anything else you're reading this month. Okay, we'll stop with the "superior" puns now.

xoxo
Sana

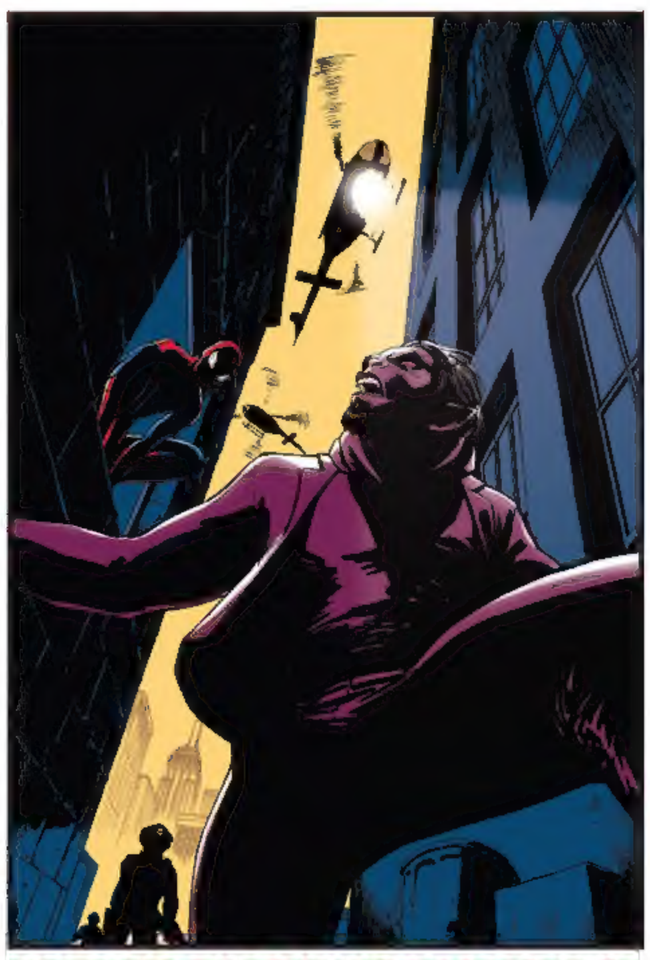
IT'S SUPERIOR SPIDER-MONTH!

Pick up this month's Spider-Books for more!

SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #13

SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN TEAM-UP #1

NEXT:



MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE #7

SCARLET SPIDER #19

NAHGA